

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 494
By Miller L

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Dr. Harry J. Guffee of Franklin.

WHEREAS, it was with great sadness and a profound sense of loss that the members of this General Assembly and the citizens of our state learned of the death of Dr. Harry J. Guffee of Franklin; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Guffee was a distinguished citizen of the state of Tennessee who was very dedicated to his profession, community and family; and

WHEREAS, he was born in Franklin and entered Vanderbilt University in 1930, where he played football and captained the 1934 team; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Guffee courageously served in the U.S. Army during World War II as a captain in the medical services. He was captured at Normandy Beach and was one of only 32 people in the 3,500-member 84th Division to survive the invasion; and

WHEREAS, he was instrumental in setting up early hospitals for survivors of German concentration camps, including Dachau. Upon his return from the war, Dr. Guffee helped establish the Dan German Hospital, and in 1959 he was on the initial medical staff at Williamson County Hospital; and

WHEREAS, his love of community and humanity motivated Dr. Guffee, whose typical day before retirement in 1979 included operating until noon, then seeing about 100 patients in the afternoons before starting on house calls that lasted until 11 p.m. and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Guffee contributed his time and considerable talents as a board member and as team doctor at Battle Ground Academy, always refusing to accept payment for his medical services; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Guffee evinced his strong religious faith as a member of the First Methodist Church, where he was active for many years; and

WHEREAS, realizing that citizenship entails many responsibilities, Dr. Guffee served assiduously as a charter member of the Franklin Rotary Club; he was also a longtime director of the National Cutting Horse Association and was a member of that distinguished group's Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, the legacy Dr. Harry Guffee leaves behind will be remembered and treasured by his friends and associates for many years to come; and

WHEREAS, he enjoyed a happy and loving marriage with his wife, Dorothy Brady Guffee, who preceded him in death; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that this legislative body pause in its deliberations to remember the exemplary life of this fine Tennessean; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we honor the memory of Dr. Harry J. Guffee, remembering with admiration his exemplary character and many selfless contributions to the Franklin community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our deepest sympathy and condolences to the family and friends of Dr. Guffee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.